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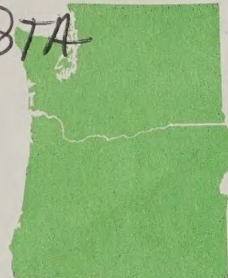


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# Forest Service News

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IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Little change in 1983 campground fees

While most campground fees will remain at 1982 levels, 15 more campgrounds in the National Forests of Oregon and Washington will charge for use next summer, according to the USDA Forest Service.

The fee for family camping will be \$2 to \$6 at 305 campgrounds. Last year, rates were \$3 to \$6 in 290 campgrounds. Several campgrounds will charge an additional one to two dollars at some more popular individual campsites such as lakeside camps.

There are more than 900 campgrounds in the two-state Pacific Northwest Region. A listing of charge sites and fee schedules will be announced by National Forest Supervisors.

As operating costs have increased in recent years, more of the cost of providing recreation facilities and services continues to be shifted from the general populace to the National Forest user, according to Regional Forester Jeff M. Sirmon. To qualify as a fee campground, Sirmon said, specified minimum facilities and services must be available.

"More fee sites and better fee compliance will help keep campgrounds open. A few campground closures and further reduction in services still may be necessary, however, because of smaller recreation budgets," Sirmon said.

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